



0000115953

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM

From: KnechtD@aol.com
 Sent: Monday, August 23, 2010 7:10 PM
 To: Kennedy-Web
 Subject: Opposed to proposed Global Water rate hike

ORIGINAL

SW-20445A-09-0077
 W-20446A-09-0080
 W-02451A09-0078
 W-02450A-09-0081
 W-01732A-09-0079
 W-01212A-09-0082

TO: ACC Commissioner Sandra Kennedy

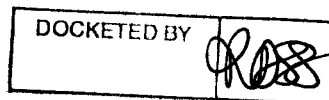
RE: Case Numbers:

SW-20445A-09-0077**W-20446A-09-0080****W-02451A-09-0078****W-02450A-09-0081****W-01732A-09-0079****W-01212A-09-0082**

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

AUG 27 2010



We are opposed to the proposed Global Water rate hikes which have the potential of severely impacting the economies of the region. We currently live in the Province Retirement Community and would face home rate increases of 30 % and HOA rate increase of up to 500 %, resulting in at least 20 % increases in annual homeowner fees.

For a relatively low-risk investment in the utility, there is no basis for the rationale that the investors should earn an 8% return as was used as justification by Global Water for the proposed rate increases. Many of us have lost a significant portion of our retirement investments during the past several years in supposedly safe funds and are currently achieving much lower returns of around 0.5 %. The requested increases in the rates by Global Water under its monopoly for water services are a blatant gouging of a captive consumer market, and we, the homeowners, respectfully request the protection of the Arizona Corporation Commission to arrive at a fair and reasonable resolution of the rate fees.

Sincerely yours,

Dieter and Margaret Knecht
 42784 W. Whispering Wind Ln
 Maricopa, AZ 85138

RECEIVED
 2010 AUG 27 P 4:05
 ARIZONA CORPORATION
 COMMISSION
 DOCKET CONTROL

Katherine Nutt

From: bette@orbitelcom.com
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2010 11:36 AM
To: Kennedy-Web
Subject: Case number 09-0079

SW-20445A-09-0077
W-20446A-09-0080
W-02451A09-0078
W-02450A-09-0081
W-01732A-09-0079
W-01212A-09-0082

I am writing on the proposed Global water rate increases I am one usually not to say anything but this increase at this time seems unreal. They are asking for such a high increase when everyone else is trying to get by. My social security has not gone up for years why do they need a increase and why so big when they are making a profit.

They are going to make it difficult for people of Maricopa to stay here and live with these increases there are so many people that have left Maricopa already and if this increase goes into effect a lot more people will be leaving. Between the residents increase and HOA's fees going up because of the water increases many people including myself will have to relocate please be kind of us all and don't give them this increase they want.

Thank you for your time
Elizabeth Gratta
41396 W Barcelona Drive
Maricopa, AZ 85138

Katherine Nutt

From: DON MINER [KEDZIE6624@MSN.COM]
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2010 11:05 AM
To: Kennedy-Web
Subject: Fw: Proposed Global Water Increase

SW-20445A-09-0077
W-20446A-09-0080
W-02451A09-0078
W-02450A-09-0081
W-01732A-09-0079
W-01212A-09-0082

----- Original Message -----

From: DON MINER
To: Mayes-web@azcc.gov
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2010 11:03 AM
Subject: Proposed Global Water Increase

I am a resident in the Province community in Maricopa. It has come to my attention that Global Water is trying to raise their prices to extortionate rates. I think that this is intolerable not only for our community but also for Maricopa as a whole. This area was supposed to be the NEW community in the Valley, but with all the cutbacks over the past couple of years everything has come to a halt. If these rates go up as suggested what is going to become of Maricopa? There are many retirees in the area as well as young families in their first homes, how on earth are they all going to be able to pay these rates? It is disgusting that Global is trying to dissolve Maricopa from under our feet. It will become a GHOST TOWN, with people leaving and then many many empty homes, it will become slum area. There was supposed to be a Holiday Inn being built which would bring in jobs and people to the area, what will happen to the building of that facility if the water rates increase as they want to do? Here we go again, we are promoiised all these new facilities to make Maricopa a neat community to live in, and then all the developers back out of their deals.

I beg of you at the AZCC to intervene and stop Global Water from increasing their rates as they say they are going to. We are all relying on the AZCC to do their job and make this a fair happening!!!!

Jan Miner

Katherine Nutt

From: William DeJesus [willie330@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2010 3:13 PM
To: Kennedy-Web
Subject: DOCKET 09-0079 OR 09-0080

SW-20445A-09-0077
W-20446A-09-0080
W-02451A09-0078
W-02450A-09-0081
W-01732A-09-0079
W-01212A-09-0082

Ms. Kennedy,

I am writing you in reference to the Global water issue. This proposed increase is not something that will help the town of Maricopa. I am currently a part time resident who intends to become a full time resident in the near future. This being said I am very concerned with what my elected officials intend to do about this issue. This significant increases should be stopped or delayed until a more viable compromise can be found. Global water is the only beneficiary of this incredible increase. I like my little town of Maricopa, please do not allow it to be defaced and dictated by big business.

Respectfully,

William and Margaret DeJesus

Katherine Nutt

From: Wade Beckstead [wadebeckstead@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2010 11:05 AM
To: Kennedy-Web
Subject: Global Water Rate Increase Request

SW-20445A-09-0077
W-20446A-09-0080
W-02451A09-0078
W-02450A-09-0081
W-01732A-09-0079
W-01212A-09-0082

Dear Commissioner Kennedy,

I am a concerned resident of Maricopa, AZ. The recent approval from an administrative law judge regarding the rate increases for Global Water was alarming. I don't understand how a judge could approve such a huge increase in the fees we will pay for sewer and water. We are not able to shop around to find the cheapest alternative as this is a public utility. The average water bill for homes is slated to increase from \$76 to \$102/month. That is a 34% increase. The reclaimed water is set to increase from \$0.33/1000 gallons to \$2.00/1000 gallons. That is an increase of over 500%! I don't know why any regulated business should be allowed to raise rates at such an alarming rate. Water is precious commodity that we all depend on for our livelihoods. Water is a precious commodity that we can't do without. I understand that increases are inevitable, but our incomes certainly don't keep pace with the large and greedy increases Global Water is requesting.

Global Water is currently making money. Their request to increase the rates is spurred purely by corporate greed. In speaking with a representative of Global Water, he mentioned that they wanted to take the company public. In order to go public and issue stock, they needed to make more money so they could attract investors. The only reason Global Water wants these exorbitant rate increases is so that they can go public and further line their own pockets with money. There is no need for the rate increases for Global Water to remain solvent into the future.

If this increase goes into effect, there will be significant damages done to our community. Many people are already on the brink of losing their homes. Any increase in the monthly water/sewer bills along with the increases in HOA fees will push people into foreclosure on their homes. The beauty of our community will be diminished significantly as the HOAs and homeowners stop watering landscaping. The values of our homes will decrease significantly as a result of this one decision.

It is my plea that you support the thousands of citizens of Maricopa by not giving Global Water their proposed rate increases. Please let the voice of the people be heard and followed.

Your decision and actions on this important matter will not be forgotten by the people of Maricopa in future elections.

Thank you for your time in reviewing this letter.

A concerned citizen,

Wade Beckstead

Katherine Nutt

From: Dave Wilhelmsen [dave@albsigns.com]
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2010 10:31 AM
To: Kennedy-Web
Subject: global water maricopa

Please hear our pleas to keep our water rates realistic. Don't increase the effluent water rates for Global water. That will kill our beautiful city!!!!!!

Thank you,
Dave Wilhelmsen
Maricopa

SW-20445A-09-0077
W-20446A-09-0080
W-02451A09-0078
W-02450A-09-0081
W-01732A-09-0079
W-01212A-09-0082

Katherine Nutt

From: glen alley [cp@asean-mail.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2010 3:32 PM
To: Kennedy-Web
Subject: Global Water/Maricopa

Ms Kennedy, thank you for a very informative open forum on what I presume to be one of your "tougher" cases, I would doubt in history there has EVER been 500+% increase brought before your commission. I am a 3+year resident of Maricopa, having come from Missouri, I proposed the ? of forensic accounting & I must comment that I was less than impressed by Global's attempts to explain "where the money was spent" & more than a little disappointed when the judge was "confused" by some of the accounting/reporting practices. Is that not the entire purpose of forensic accounting? If staff did not have & could not get answers, then that is the reason for further investigation, not just being worn down by the process.

I have searched MANY records & find no PSC or like body that EVER gave a sweeping 5 year rate plan that even exceeded 100% of current rates...even more incredible was the information presented on costs of similar product/services in CasaGrande, Gilbert, Chandler etc.

I realize this is a most emotional issue, I am sure folks will "bail" on Maricopa, I am sure landscapers, builders & many other segments of the Maricopa economy will shed many more jobs...this will of course include GW folks.

One of our council members was asked what he would suggest as a remedy, I was very disappointed with his obvious politically driven answer of a rollback or NO increase, this is not even in the realm of reality. I suggest that the commission give a FAIR increase to GW for the next

12-18 months with the understanding that further details & disclosure can come during that time & if? Global does NOT WANT TO BE IN THE WATER BUSINESS IN MARICOPA, then perhaps other investors or the municipality can move forward to acquiring the business @ fair market value.

I found it very insulting, as I hope you did, for Global to suggest they are raising rates to save us money.

One final thought...the HOA's are "held hostage" because of existing green belts, lakes, etc...but I think the sword is double edged, we are also "buying" a product (reclaimed water) that there is NO other market for Global to sell.

Just some musings/thoughts from yesterday's extended day, hope that the presentations by concerned citizens from the emotional as well as practical side has some effect. Thanks for your willingness to listen. I do hope & pray that ALL sides are considered.

Glen Alley
42374 W. Fountainhead ST.
Maricopa, AZ 85138
520-568-6808

Katherine Nutt

From: Kennedy-Web
To: Carrie Vargas
Subject: RE: Global Water

-----Original Message-----

From: Carrie Vargas [mailto:dramateachvargas@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 1:02 PM
To: Mayes-WebEmail; Kennedy-Web; Newman-Web; Pierce-Web; Stump-Web
Subject: Global Water

Dear Board,

I am certain that you have been receiving several calls and e-mails about the proposed rate increases for Global Water. But I wonder, are you aware that Global water has spent hundreds of thousands (if not millions) or dollars laying out lines and prepping for properties that are lucky to be built in five or more years? What kind of company spends THAT much money on properties that have no hope of being built in the foreseeable future. I know that they have done this, and now they want to put the cost of their poor planning onto the consumers that have no other choice but to pay. Don't believe me? Ask them about the local school district that had an offer of land donated to it that came with a hefty bill owed to Global water for work that was already done even though the school district and developers can't see building on it anytime soon.

Global water has a reputation in the community for poor customer service, shutting down people inappropriately and forcing outrageous re-connect fees. If this rate goes through, even more property renters/owners will be shut down, thus having to pay even more that they already won't be able to afford in a vain hope of getting reconnected.

You have a responsibility to the people to consider these things. The CEO made 2 million dollars in salary for poor planning and poor customer service. Many residents in Maricopa are struggling to make ends meet. This kind of jump will dessimate them financially, it will hurt HOA's which will turn around and hurt the people even more. It will cause Maricopa to wither. You need to take a hard look at how they are spending their money before allowing this town to die a slow death. Thank you so much for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,

Carrie C. Vargas

Katherine Nutt

From: Larry Berkowitz [lsbarizona@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2010 12:29 PM
To: Kennedy-Web
Subject: Docket Numbers (09-0079 or 09-0080)

Dear Commissioner Kennedy,

I am writing this in response to the pending increase to Maricopa's water increase by Global Water.

Has Global Waters cost gone up by 506%? If not why should the proposed increase to the homeowner by that percentage. If we are expected to tighten our belt and share the burden, what steps is Global water taking to reduce its costs and improve its service to the community?

This has been a stressful and trying time for homeowners to meet their mortgage, face the shocking depreciation of their property, rising HOA charges and look forward to hefty tax increases from local, state and federal governments.

The community is beginning to recover from an alarming number of foreclosures and empty homes. Adding the proposed increase is wrong, unwise and unfair.

Larry Berkowitz
46173 W. Kristina Way
Maricopa, AZ 85139

> of being built in the foreseeable future. I know that they have done
> this, and now they want to put the cost of their poor planning onto
> the consumers that have no other choice but to pay. Don't believe me?
> Ask them about the local school district that had an offer of land
> donated to it that came with a hefty bill owed to Global water for
> work that was already done even though the school district and
> developers can't see building on it anytime soon.
>
> Global water has a reputation in the community for poor customer
> service, shutting down people inappropriately and forcing outrageous
> re-connect fees. If this rate goes through, even more property
> renters/owners will be shut down, thus having to pay even more that
> they already won't be able to afford in a vain hope of getting
> reconnected.
>
> You have a responsibility to the people to consider these things.
> The CEO made 2 million dollars in salary for poor planning and poor
> customer service. Many residents in Maricopa are struggling to make
> ends meet. This kind of jump will desimate them financially, it will
> hurt HOA's which will turn around and hurt the people even more. It
> will cause Maricopa to wither. You need to take a hard look at how
> they are spending their money before allowing this town to die a slow
> death. Thank you so much for taking the time to read this.
>
> Sincerely,
>
> Carrie C. Vargas

Katherine Nutt

From: Cynthia Morgan [cynthia.morgan@orbitelcom.com]
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 1:46 PM
To: Kennedy-Web
Subject: Fw: Docket Numbers SW-20445A-09-0077 W-20446A-09-0080 W-02451A-09-0078 W-02450A-09-0081 W-01732A-09-0079 W-01212A-09-0082

> This letter is from a SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, so I would say she knows of
> which she speaks.
> Cynthia Morgan

> ----- Original Message -----

> From: "Carrie Vargas" <dramateachvargas@gmail.com>
> To: "Cynthia Morgan" <cynthia.morgan@orbitelcom.com>
> Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 1:23 PM
> Subject: Fwd: Docket Numbers SW-20445A-09-0077 W-20446A-09-0080
> W-02451A-09-0078 W-02450A-09-0081 W-01732A-09-0079 W-01212A-09-0082

> This is what I sent! Thanks!

> ----- Forwarded message -----

> From: Carrie Vargas <dramateachvargas@gmail.com>
> Date: Fri, Aug 27, 2010 at 1:20 PM
> Subject: Docket Numbers SW-20445A-09-0077 W-20446A-09-0080
> W-02451A-09-0078 W-02450A-09-0081 W-01732A-09-0079 W-01212A-09-0082
> To: mayes-web@azcc.gov, kennedy-web@azcc.gov, newman-web@azcc.gov,
> pierce-web@azcc.gov, stump-web@azcc.gov

> This is in reference to Docket Numbers

> SW-20445A-09-0077

> W-20446A-09-0080

> W-02451A-09-0078

> W-02450A-09-0081

> W-01732A-09-0079

> W-01212A-09-0082

> Dear Board,

> I am certain that you have been receiving several calls and
> e-mails about the proposed rate increases for Global Water. But I
> wonder, are you aware that Global water has spent hundreds of
> thousands (if not millions) of dollars laying out lines and prepping
> for properties that are lucky to be built in five or more years? What
> kind of company spends THAT much money on properties that have no hope